UN General Assembly Meeting

†274. SHRI MOTI LAL VORA:
SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister participated in the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, recently;

(b) if so, the names of the Heads of the States who participated in this meeting togetherwith the issues raised therein; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Yes.

(b) As many as 40 Heads of State/Government participated in the 57th Session of the UN General Assembly. A number of issues were raised by them, including issues related to international peace and security, terrorism, UN reforms, human rights, development and other issues on the UN agenda.

(c) The Prime Minister addressed the UN General Assembly on September 13, 2002, and expressed India's perspectives on important issues before the UN. He called on the international community for global effort to combat terrorism and voiced concern against State-sponsored terrorism. The Indian delegation has continued to take an active part in the debate and proceedings of the UN General Assembly.

Foreign consulates in Hyderabad

275. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates propose to set up their consulate in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether his Ministry has given permission for this;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the places in the country where these countries have already their consulates; and

(d) by when these consulates are going to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The United States has Consulates in Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai while Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates have their Consulates in Mumbai only.

(d) Does not arise.

Russia and Britain's efforts to reduce Indo-Pak tension

276. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the efforts made by Russia and Britain to reduce tension between India and Pakistan;

(b) whether the same has brought any tangible results; and

(c) what are the areas of disputes between India and Pakistan that were discussed by Britain and Russia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) The Government of India have been in touch with the international community on the issue of terrorism and the dangers it poses to regional and global peace and security. Our interaction with leading nations on this issue was further intensified after September 11 last year and the subsequent developments in our neighbourhood. Hon'ble Prime Minister, senior members of the Cabinet and senior Government officials have since then exchanged views with their counterparts, including from the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom, on regional and international security issues, the menace of international terrorism, as also on bilateral issues.

There is a clear understanding and acknowledgement in the international community of Pakistan's involvement with and support for cross-border terrorism and the unacceptability of this approach. Both the